13. Government allot a house or land to Development News Service.

14. The Development News Service be invited by the PIB and the PM's Office to depute its representative in all journalist groups for plant visits or visits abroad of the PM or the President.

15. The Government give grant-in-aid for the setting up of the national news network for the small and medium press with suitable accreditation to its correspondence at the centre and states.

16. Only imported newsprint, preferably glazed, be made available to districts and taluq press to enable local, district and provincial press present an acceptable countenance of their newspapers.

17. The maximum limit of the imported newsprint at 300 tons per annum be retained with the existing rebate on duty or the best Indian newsprint be alloted to the small Press at international price.

18. The requirements of the district and provincial press be met from the provincial and district headquarters without causing financial strain of the users.

19. The Kelkar Committee Report be rejected as it is based on guess work rather than actualities and realities and a fresh committee on which IFSMN is represented be set up to go into specific requirements of the district and provincial press.

20. Representatives of IFSMN be coopted on the existing commitees and the expert pannel in the Ministry of I&B and IFSMN be invited to nominate its representatives on the committees to be formed in future.

21. Representatives of IFSMN be inducted in the Press Accreditation Committee, Newsprint Advisory Committee, Purchase Committee, Radio & Doordarshan Programmes Committees.

Shortage of Dwelling Units

452. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the shortage of dwelling units increased from about 23 million in 1981 to the estimated about 28 million units in 1988 in spite of the various Government schemes; and

(b) if so, what extra schemes Government propose to take to wipe out the shortage and arrears in the face of the above trend?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) The estimation of housing needs takes into consideration the factors of congestion, overcrowding, No. of married couple requiring separate rooms and the unserviceable Kutcha houses. Keeping in view these factors and based on the 1981 census the NBO has estimated the shortage of dwelling units in the country in 1981 to be 23.3 million and projected the likely shortage in 1988 to be 28.5 million.

(b) Housing is a State subject and all social housing schemes are implemented by the State Govts./U.T. Admns. according to their local requirements and plan priorities.. Central financial assistance is provided to the State Govts. and U. T. Admns. in the shape of block loans and grants without being tied to particular head of development.

However, several steps have been taken at the National level to meet the demand for housing. Some of them are as follows:—

(i) The Public Sector outlay for housing has been raised from Rs. 1490.87 crores in the Sixth Five Year Plan to Rs. 2458.21 crores in the Seventh Five Year Plan. The National Housing Policy (NHP) has been appoved by the Rajya Sabha..

(ii) To provide easy accessibility to housing finance, the National Houing Bank has been set up.

(iii) HUDCO's financial operations has been sufficiently stepped up.

(iv) The National Housing Policy has envisaged removing shelterlessness by the turn of the century.

(v) Under the Rural House Sites-cum-Construction Assistance Scheme for landless workers, a provision of Rs. 577 crores has been made. Of this, Rs. 36 crores would be utilised to provide developed house-sites of 90 sq. mtrs each to 7.2 lakh landless families at the rate of Rs. 500 per family and Rs. 541 crores would be utilised for the provision of construction assistance to 271 lakh families at the rate of Rs. 2000 per family.

(vi) During the last four years of the Seventh Five Year Plan, the achievements has been as follows—

——31.42 lakh plots were allotted to landless workers in rural areas.

—15.24 lakh families were given construction assistance.

—4.58 lakh dwelling units have been constructed under the Indira Awas Yojana.

—69.66 lakh persons in urban slums were covered by the scheme of Environmental Improvement of Urban Slums.

—5.58 lakh dwelling units were constructed for the economically weaker sections of the population.

(vii) With a view to removing shelterless-ness. Government of India has approved a scheme for provision of shelter to the pavement dwellers in the metropolitan cities. Two schemes costing Rs. 34 lakhs and Rs. 89.88 lakhs have been sanctioned for Calcutta and Madras respectively.

Laying of Additional Pipe line in Vasant Vihar

453. SHRI JERLIE E. TARIANG: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 500 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 26th February, 1988 nad state:

(a) whether the work of laying an additional water pipeline from the JNU side has been completed;

(b) if so, when and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether any responsibility has been fixed in the matter for inordinate delay in its completion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c) The work of laying additional pipelines from JNU side has been completed in September, 1988. However, the same has not yet been connected with the MCD mainline. This is likely to be completed by the MCD by the end of March, 1989.

IARI Programme for Transfer of Technology to Farmers of UP

454. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:
SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Institute of Agricultural Research Institute is contemplating to bring a revolution in the deep interiors of Uttar Pradesh through its programme of transfer of technology to the farmers;